

Author's Purpose and Perspective Questions From Released FCATs

Read this sentence from the passage.

And the fish, whether six inches or ten, were praised like precious stones.

The author uses this comparison to

- A. reveal the assorted colors of fish.
- B. describe the various sizes of fish.
- C. show the client's appreciation for each catch.
- D. focus on the client's preference for material goods.

The author most likely wrote this passage to

- F. introduce readers to the joys of fly fishing.
- G. encourage readers to visit her at the ranch.
- H. illustrate the importance of family celebrations.
- I. share unexpected lessons from a special student.

The author includes historical information in his explanation for the cliché "wise as an owl" to

- A. highlight the close ties between animals and people.
- B. indicate how long people have been studying animal behavior.
- C. show the similarities in speech between ancient and modern societies.
- D. show that some clichés have been part of everyday language for centuries.

The author includes the quotations of Benny Goodman and Louis Armstrong to

- A. emphasize how impossible it is to define swing music.
- B. explain the techniques used in composing swing music.
- C. convince readers that playing swing music requires talent.
- D. encourage readers to learn more about swing music performers.

Based on the author's description of his snorkeling experience, how does he feel about what he observes in the sea?

- A. fearful of the brewing storm
- B. enchanted with the environment
- C. resigned to the chill of the ocean
- D. amused by the ginger-ale bubbles

Lisa Vihos wrote the article "Inside Out" to

- F. compare the visual differences of various flowers.
- G. highlight the personal history and art of O'Keeffe.
- H. explain the artistic strategies used to paint flowers.
- I. outline the struggles O'Keeffe faced as a female artist.

Read these lines from the poem.

You would never have stayed On that dairy farm, sweeping pinecones Off of the front porch, painting still lifes Of turnips and aged cheddar.

The author uses these lines to express the idea that

- A. O’Keeffe was not an industrious worker.
- B. O’Keeffe invented ways to amuse herself.
- C. farm life would not have been stimulating for O’Keeffe.
- D. farm life would have influenced O’Keeffe in other subjects.

The most likely reason the author includes quotations from Thomas Jefferson is to

- A. illustrate how respect for the press has declined since that time.
- B. demonstrate that the author has thoroughly researched his subject.
- C. support the argument that freedom of the press should be restricted.
- D. show that a widely respected person supports the position of the author.

The speaker of “Offspring” does not refer to herself in the last 10 lines of the poem.

Why does the author most likely structure the poem in this way?

- A. to indicate the daughter’s growing separation from the speaker
- B. to suggest that the speaker is becoming a more sociable person
- C. to show that the speaker is describing someone else’s observations
- D. to emphasize the daughter’s diminishing importance to the speaker

What was the author’s purpose in writing this article?

- F. to entertain the reader with a story of one man’s ingenuity
- G. to teach new golfers the importance of avoiding water hazards
- H. to provide entrepreneurs with a plan for starting new businesses
- I. to demonstrate the necessity of accommodating troublesome neighbors

Why did the author write “The Police Beat”?

- A. to present the lessons learned by a first-year reporter
- B. to encourage the reader to take up a career in journalism
- C. to describe the process by which a report becomes a news story
- D. to relate the experiences of one reporter while covering crime stories

What idea BEST describes the author’s purpose in writing this article?

- A. to improve future research
- B. to defend controversial research
- C. to describe the results of new research
- D. to correct the results of inaccurate research

The author of this article would most likely make the statement that mountains must

- F. move with Earth's crust.
- G. crumble when faults occur.
- H. yield to the forces of nature.
- I. sink under their own weight.

With which sentence would Jay Heinrichs most likely agree?

- F. Nature does a better job of managing forests than humans do.
- G. The Forest Service manages forests by preserving stands of old trees.
- H. Conservationists and the federal government agree on forest management.
- I. The United States timber industry has the most vital role in saving forests.

In the author's opinion, personal trips under three miles are

- A. usually safe.
- B. often dangerous.
- C. within biking distance.
- D. too long for most bicyclists.

What does the lifebuoy represent?

- F. fear of poisonous creatures
- G. anger with irritating creatures
- H. pleasure in beautiful creatures
- I. sympathy for helpless creatures

The speaker in the poem addresses himself to "you" in order to

- A. accuse the reader.
- B. engage the reader.
- C. confuse the reader.
- D. entertain the reader.

What is the authors' purpose in this article?

- F. to provide insights into human behavior
- G. to show how to organize a class schedule
- H. to explain why some people are happier than others
- I. to reveal differences between human and animal behavior

With which statement would the authors of this article most likely agree?

- F. Chronobiology can change people's lives.
- G. Circadian rhythms are among life's mysteries.
- H. People are usually able to adapt to continual change.
- I. Human bodies have relatively stable internal environments.

What was the author's purpose in writing this article?

- A. to predict the future of baseball
- B. to present the history of baseball
- C. to highlight some inconsistencies in baseball
- D. to chronicle individual contributions to baseball

Which statement BEST describes the author's attitude toward baseball?

- A. Baseball is a technical sport.
- B. Baseball is a game of the past.
- C. Baseball is a national treasure.
- D. Baseball is a pastime for children.

What was the original purpose of A Little Pretty Pocket-Book?

- A. to describe games played by children
- B. to reveal the history of childhood games
- C. to compare the rules of childhood games
- D. to encourage competition among children

What is the author's point of view in this article?

- A. She favors women's rights.
- B. She opposes political families.
- C. She favors a patriarchal system.
- D. She opposes women in government.